

HHC, USAG



Welcome to the Company!
Newcomer's Guide
Fort Irwin and the surrounding area

Note: All information contained in this guide can be found on the web or from various agencies around post. Phone numbers and points of contact are accurate at the time of publishing.

On behalf of CPT Kagoni & 1SG Croteau, we would like to welcome you to our family.

Your Soldier has been assigned to HHC, USAG. Your Point of Contact is _____ and they can be reached at _____.

We have a very active Family Readiness Group (FRG) and we are here to help make your transition to Ft. Irwin as easy as possible. You can expect a call from someone in the Troop as soon as we get your contact information. But please feel free to contact us when you receive this guide.

Useful Information & Phone Numbers:

Company Orderly Room.....760-380-4313

AG Replacement.....760-380-3006

This is the first place where incoming Soldiers will check in to begin their in-processing. The Replacement Detachment is located in Bldg. 109 on the corner of Inner Loop Road and Langford Lake Road. If you are arriving by car there are directional signs that will take you to the building. It is staffed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week including weekends and holidays.

Landmark Inn.....760-386-4040

The Landmark is located on Inner Loop Road. All of the rooms include high speed internet access. There is also a laundry room (takes quarters) and a playground. Room rates start at \$93.00 per night and they accept all Major Credit Cards but NO PERSONAL CHECKS. Pets are normally kenneled at SGT Fuzzbuddy's (near the hotel) or can be allowed in your hotel room with additional deposit if there is no

vacancy at the kennel. The Landmark is usually very busy; **MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS EARLY, AND LET THEM KNOW IF YOU HAVE PETS!!**

There are also other hotels located off post in Barstow, but remember that it is approximately 30 miles from Fort Irwin to the Barstow city limits. <http://www.landmarkinnftirwin.com/>

Pinnacle Housing.....760-386-HOME

There is a wait list for housing on Fort Irwin. Please call the Pinnacle offices to get approximate wait times to help plan your move to Ft Irwin. Also, please be aware that there is a pet deposit of \$250.00 PER PET.



SGT Fuzzbuddy's.....760-380-7387

The facility is located within walking distance of the Vet Clinic & the Landmark Inn. To board your pet you will need to have the pet's current vaccinations. CA LAW REQUIRES THAT DOGS HAVE THE BORDETELLA IMMUNIZATION. Please ensure that your pet has received this vaccination prior to arriving. If you are arriving from overseas – please be especially careful of this requirement as this shot may not have been required in Europe.

Facts and Figures

Fort Irwin is located approximately **37 miles** northeast of Barstow, California in the High Mojave Desert midway between Las Vegas, Nevada and Los Angeles, California. The installation is surrounded by desert hills and mountains. Natural vegetation is sparse and consists of mesquite, creosote, yucca plants and other low growing plants. Beautiful sunsets, bluest skies, sunny days and wide open vistas are some of the pleasures of the desert and give many visitors and local citizens a sense of freedom. Fort Irwin maintains a small town atmosphere with town hall meetings and other community forums even though soldiers from other installations rotate through the NTC several times per year.

Directions - Fort Irwin is located approximately 37 miles northeast of Barstow, California in the High Mojave Desert midway between Las Vegas, Nevada and San Bernardino, California.

You can call the Replacement Detachment prior to your arrival to obtain detailed information about the best mode of transportation between servicing airports and Fort Irwin.

You can call the AG Replacement Detachment at, **(760) 380-4747/3006 or DSN 470-4747/3006** upon arrival. Collect calls are accepted from the three servicing airports. If other transportation is not available, the Replacement Detachment will dispatch a van (if available) to pick you up. (Be prepared to wait a minimum of three hours at the airport, as the van must travel from Fort Irwin to the airport.) Due to the distance from Fort Irwin to the servicing airports, AG Replacement personnel will not dispatch a van unless you are physically present at the airport.

Arriving by Car - Fort Irwin is accessible via Interstate Highways 40 and 15, State Highways 58 and 247. All highways will lead into I-15. If traveling North (towards Las Vegas) on I-15 get off at the Fort Irwin Road exit. At the stop sign make a left and drive approximately 37 miles until you reach the front gate. If traveling South (towards San Bernardino) on I-15 get off at the Fort Irwin Road exit. At the stop sign make a right and drive approximately 37 miles until you reach the front gate. Make sure you have a valid driver's license, Military ID, current vehicle registration and proof of insurance or you will be delayed at the gate. If possible, you should plan your arrival during daylight hours especially if you have reservations at the Landmark Inn on post. The desert can be very dark at night and roads are not well lit. There are no gas stations between Barstow and Fort Irwin, so make sure you have enough gas in your car before exiting on Fort Irwin Road.

Arriving by Air - The nearest airports are located in Ontario, CA (120 miles), Los Angeles, CA (175 miles) and Las Vegas, NV (180 miles). If you arrive at one of the above airports, you will need to make arrangements for transportation from the airport to Barstow.

Additional Arrival Options - For other methods of arrival, visit the Military Homefront website, type in "Fort Irwin", and select search. This will take you to everything there is to know about NTC-Fort Irwin.

Moving In & Getting Settled

Now that you have arrived on Ft Irwin, you are probably trying to get used to the weather. Located in the middle of the Mojave, the temperature here is, well, it's HOT!!! The weather in the fall & winter is a bit milder, and nights can be relatively cool.

Part of the Soldier's in-processing is housing and transportation. When you visit these facilities you will get a better idea of when you will receive your quarters and when your furniture will arrive, if it was shipped by the Army.

There is no Temporary Furniture available while you are waiting for your things to arrive, but the ACS lending closet has a limited supply of kitchen items, portable cribs, and sleeping mats available.

They can be reached at 760-380-4784.

The Community Thrift Store is also a great place to pick up items to help get you started. The Thrift Store is open from 1000 – 1400 on Wednesdays and Fridays & you can call them at 760-380-4076.

Vehicle Registration & CA Driver's Licenses:

Licenses: 760-256-0331

California Vehicle Registration: 760-256-8314

www.dmv.ca.gov

To prevent waiting in long lines, you can call to make an appointment to get your vehicle registered. 1-800-921-1117 or 1-800-777-0133. If you have an appointment, go to the right side of the counter, where there is a sign that says "Appointments Only" The current cost of registration is \$59 and can be paid in cash or with CA check. They do not accept Credit Cards. Make sure to bring all of the following paperwork.

Military ID

Proof of Insurance

REG 5045 (which you can get from the DMV website)

Proof of out of state citizenship (LES)

VIN Certification from CA Highway Patrol (if registering a brand new car)

CA Smog Certification – cost is about \$50 and can be done at various locations. If you stop at the Provost Marshal's Office they may have coupons!

The nearest DMV to the post is in Barstow – 528 E. Virginia Way.

Schools –

The schools on posts are all part of the Silver Valley Unified School District. While there are 4 schools located on Fort Irwin, they are still CA Public Schools; they are not DoDDs (Military) schools. Our schools are Lewis Elementary School (K – 2nd grade), Tiefort View Intermediate School (3-5 grade), Ft Irwin Middle School (6 – 8 grade), & Colin Powell Pre-School. All of these schools are located on Ft Irwin.

Silver Valley High School is located 35 miles from post and there is a bus service to and from the high school, as well as an activity bus for those students participating in after school activities.

General Colin Powell Preschool is a need based Head Start program for children 3-4 years of age. The school is on post and they have both a morning & afternoon program.

To contact the schools or for registration information, you can contact the **School Liaison at 760-380-6880** or you can get more information at <http://www.irwin.army.mil/Community/Schools/>

Cell Phone Service:

Please be aware that only Verizon & AT&T customers get reception on Fort Irwin. There is a Verizon Store in the lobby of the Main PX where you can sign up for either contract or pre-paid service.

Home Phone & Cable Service on Post:

Home Phone service is available through Verizon. Verizon will also bundle their services with the Verizon Fios or Directv so that you will get phone service, cable, & internet on one bill. If you choose this option, make sure that you check out the current specials that are being offered by Directv by going to www.directv.com Directv is the only vendor that offers NFL Sunday Ticket.

Once you are a current customer you are no longer eligible for the special promotions and it might be in your best interests to deal

directly with Directv. There is also DISH Network available and you can check their specials and promotions at www.dishnetwork.com. Depending on your viewing preferences you may be able to get a great rate on premier channels if you purchase a sports package such as NFL Sunday Ticket.

Other Community Groups:

Mothers of Pre-Schoolers (MOPS)

Meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month (SEP-MAY) from 0900-1100 at the chapel and has childcare on site.

Protestant Women of the Chapel (PWOC)

Meets every Tuesday from 0900-1130 and 1800-2030 has childcare on site. There are also evening sessions.

There are so many more clubs and organizations that are available. Each school also has an active Parent Teacher Association (PTA). More information about the PTA can be found by contacting each school directly.

Our Chapel Services also have a lot going on so make sure to check with the Chaplain's Office for more groups, church services, and marriage retreats. **The Soldier & Family Wellness Center can be reached at 760-380-8431.**



Working Out & Exercising

If you are an active person or you like to work out, there is a lot for you here on Ft Irwin as well. The Coyote Activity Center, located on Inner Loop road is Ladies Only from 0800-1100 Monday to Friday & they have personal trainer services and fitness classes available as well. **Their number is 760-380-7244.** There is also the Memorial and Freedom Fitness Centers Available. There is a large track across the street from the Landmark Inn, as well as paved walking paths around the housing communities. The walking path is perfect for jogging, riding your bike, and even rollerblading – but because of the heat, make sure that you carry some bottled water!



SHOPPING!!!!



You will find that our Soldiers work hard, and everyone could use a little “Visa card therapy” every now & then! So here’s a list of some great places to shop!

On Post, we have a nice sized Post Exchange (PX). The PX is a department type store where you can usually get a good deal – plus you don’t pay a sales tax when you shop at the PX. We also have a

Garden Center & Furniture Store. The furniture store has appliances too and they deliver on post & in Barstow for a fee. The Furniture Store is located near the Post Theater, on Langford Lake Road.

There is also a Commissary (Grocery Store) on post, located next to the PX on Inner Loop Road. The commissary is open 7 days a week. M-F 0900 – 2000, Sat & Sun 1030 – 1900.

Fabrics & Crafts

Army Arts & Crafts Center – Inner Loop Rd. Ft Irwin 760-380-4767.
Custom Framing, Ceramics, & so much more – right here on Fort Irwin!

Antiques: Pomona Antique Row E 2nd Street, Pomona, CA
Over 400 shops on 2 city blocks! For more information call 909-623-9835

LA Fashion District has an unbelievable assortment of Fabric, many at close out prices.

Joanne's Fabrics – 14575 7th Street, Victorville, CA
Home Fabrics – Roy Rogers Drive, Victorville, CA

Michaels – 12353 Mariposa Road #2, Victorville, CA

FARMER'S MARKETS

Big Bear Lake, Tuesdays 8:30-1PM on Big Bear Blvd at Division Drive
(Apr – Oct)

Victorville, Thursday 8-12, Bear Valley Rd. Near the Community College

Victorville, Saturday at Dale Evans Swap Meet behind Von's
Riverside, Fridays 8:30 – 12, 5261 Arlington Ave, Year round

San Bernadino, Tuesday 5:30 – 9:30, E Highland at Valencia Ave, Year Round

Montclair, Saturdays 2:30 – 6:00 PM Central Ave. at Benito St.

Redlands, Thursdays 6-9 PM E State Street at N. 6th Street

Temecula, Saturdays 8-Noon, 6th St. at Old Town Front Street

Florist

Barstow Flower & Bridal Boutique – 760-256-8408

1-800-FLOWERS – delivery service using FEDEX & UPS. Go to www.1800flowers.com for more information & current specials

www.Proflowers.com – Online specials and 20% discount if you register on their site. 1-800-776-3569

Furniture & Home Decorating

Buy Rite Furniture – Ontario, CA 909-923-7789

Auction Every Thursday. At 5:50 they auction tools, appliances, and miscellaneous items and at 7:00 they auction furniture. The Furniture is new. It is overstocks, odd pieces, and show room items from quality stores. They take cash, credit, & debit and you have until Saturday at 2:00 to pick up the items. They also deliver & will help load your truck or van. Please keep in mind that there is a 10% auctioneer's fee that is added to your total. Take I-15 South to CA 60 and merge right towards LA. Take the Vineyard exit, right on Vineyard Drive until you see a huge warehouse marked Furniture Auction. Preview what will be for sale at this weeks auction by going to www.buyriteauction.com

Pier 1 – 12429 Mariposa Rd, Victorville 760-241-3638

Store is open 10:00 – 9:00 Monday – Saturday & 10:00 – 7:00 on Sunday

Furniture Repair

Ernie Kemper – (661)948-5654

Furniture repair and refinishing, specializing in antiques and touch up work. 44131 Soft Ave, Lancaster, CA

Malls

There are several Malls in our area including a few outlet malls! In addition to the malls listed below there are several more that are further away – including one in Rancho Cucamonga, and another in Montclair.

Mall of Victor Valley in Victorville

14400 Bear Valley Rd. Take I-15 South to Victorville, exit on Bear Valley Rd, Mall will be on your right.

www.themallofvictorvalley.com Hours: 10:00 – 9:00 Monday – Saturday & 11:00 – 7:00 on Sunday

Ontario Mills in Ontario

One Mills Circle. Take I-15 South go past Victorville, stay on I-15 to Los Angeles (Don't take the 215). At the intersection of I-15 & I-10 the mall will be to your right.

www.ontariomills.com Hours: 10:00 -9:30 Monday – Saturday & 10:00 – 8:00 on Sunday. There are lots of other stores & restaurants in the surrounding area as well.

Tanger Outlet Center in Barstow

2796 Tanger Way. Take I-15 South to Lenwood Rd. Exit on Lenwood Rd., turn Left at the stop light & an immediate right – you will see the outlet on your right.

www.tangeroutlet.com/barstow Hours 0900-2000 Sunday - Saturday

PETS:

For those families that are arriving with pets, we have a great Veterinary Clinic located right on Fort Irwin. The clinic is located next door to Sgt. Fuzzbuddy's Kennel, on Critter Way, off of Inner Loop Road.

Fort Irwin Vet Services.....760-380-3025

New Animal Hospital (Barstow)

2500 E. Main Street760-256-1239

ABC Animal Clinic (Barstow)

1238 E. Main Street760-256-3330

Mesa Vet Clinic (Victorville)

14643 Palmdale Road.....760-245-0109

Emergencies – if you have a pet emergency on post, call the EMERGENCY ROOM (380-3114) & they will page a Vet Tech. If one is not available or if you prefer to take your pet elsewhere, you can call or go to the Animal Emergency Clinic in Victorville

Animal Emergency Clinic (Victorville)

15532 Bear Valley Rd760-962-1122

Pet Groomers:

Tattle Tails (Barstow)

1105 E Main Street 760-256-9021

KR Farm

This groomer will come to your house.... 760-254-3307

PetSmart (Victorville)

12624 Amargosa Rd. 760-955-1030

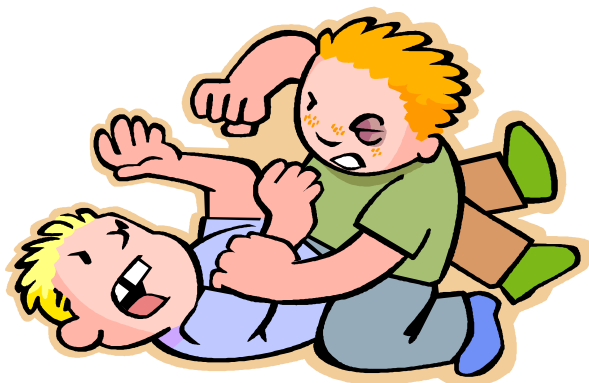
Kennels:

Sgt. Fuzzbuddy's 760-380-7387

Hi Desert Pet Motel (Barstow)

2500 E. Main Street 760-252-1239

KIDS!!!



Moving to a new location can be hard for kids. There are a lot of things here on the post for the kids to do. Our Child Youth Services (CYS) Office offers lots of programs for our youth.

CYS – For all of the programs below contact **760-380-3732** more information on School Age Services – for ages 6-12. CYS provides a safe & caring environment before and after school. It provides the children a safe place to explore health and fitness, art, leisure, recreation, life skills, citizenship, mentoring and support services as well as a fun place to hang out with their friends. It's a great place to make new friends too! Children must be enrolled with CYS.

The Middle School Program, for grades 6-8, offers young teens the opportunity to join various specialty clubs that stress community involvement and volunteerism, participate in field trips throughout Southern California, explore the computer and Internet, and receive tutoring & mentoring. The program operates after school, during school holidays, teacher in-service days, and during school vacations. Snack is included daily as well as lunch during non school attendance days. There is no cost to use the teen center – but students **MUST** be enrolled with CYS. The Teen Center, for grades 9-12, offers teen activities such

as field trips, dances, and a computer lab, as well as a safe monitored place for teens to hang out with friends.

AWANA – Non-Denominational Chapel Youth Group meets 1600-1800, Wednesday at the Center Chapel **Call 386-8286** for more information.

In addition to the clubs and activities listed above, our Child & Youth Services program offers a variety of classes and sports. There are two swimming pools on post. The Oasis Pool is located on the corner of 2nd Street & E Avenue, and the other is off of Goldstone in the Sandy Basin neighborhood. The Oasis Pool offers swimming classes for all ages.

Other Fun Stuff To Do!

If you don't mind driving a little bit, there are a lot of things to do. Las Vegas and Los Angeles are both about 2-1/2 hours away (Vegas is North & LA is south on I-15) and there are so many other places to go in between!

Apple Picking & Fall Pumpkin Patch

Riley's Farm – open Monday – Saturday 9-6, 909-797-7534

The farm has many different events occurring throughout the year – checkout their website to what is going on & what fruit is in season!

Take the I-10 or the I-60 towards Palm Springs. Exit on Beaumont Avenue. Turn Left and proceed approximately nine miles, until you see the sign that reads "Welcome to Oak Glen." (Beaumont Ave. will become Oak Glen Road.) Look for the large red-lettered "Riley's Farm" sign on the right hand side of the road. (www.rileysfarm.com)

Baseball:

Angels of Anaheim – get an Angels Family Fun Pack for only \$44 for a family of 4. The pack is available for select Wed & Thur home games,

includes 4 Upper View level ticket, 4 hot dogs, and 4 small soft drinks.
www.angelsbaseball.com

Los Angeles Dodgers: http://mlb.mlb.com/ticketing/index.jsp?c_id=la.

Check out the Dodgers website for great promotions and specials and to get your season tickets! Top Deck Seating available for as low as \$15 per seat!

San Diego Padres:

The Padres offer military discounts and they have Military Night as well! The Padres are huge supporters of the military and have a special section of their site with current military specials and promotions.

<http://sandiego.padres.mlb.com/sd/ticketing/military.jsp>

Hiking & Biking:

Old Blackie – one of the many peaks here on Ft Irwin. Take a hike up Old Blackie, bring a camera and a water-bottle & get some great shots of the post

Outdoor Recreation Office Ft Irwin – 760-380-3434

The Outdoor Rec. office is located on Goldstone Rd. past Outer Loop Rd. in Bldg. 4100. Outdoor recreation rents & repairs bicycles, has a paintball field, a skeet & trap range, and hosts a wide variety of trips. You can also stop by & rent camping & boating equipment and get directions to great campgrounds and lakes in the local area.

Mojave National Preserve – 760-252-6104

Located 60 miles east of Barstow, the National Preserve is a great place to hike, ride bikes, and backpack. The Kelso Depot Visitor's Center is open every day except for Christmas from 9 – 5. There is no entrance fee to the preserve but camping fees are \$12 per family or \$25 for group campsites. Group campsites are by reservation only so call

ahead. Individual campsites are first come first serve. Call the preserve for more information or visit their website at www.nps.gov/moja/ Black Canyon & Inscription Canyon –

The canyons are the largest Native American rock art galleries accessible to the public. About 31 miles northwest of Barstow, visitors can view petroglyphs from the road or on foot. It's a great place to go hiking, biking or rollerblading.

Big Bear Lake: <http://www.bigbearinfo.com/>.

55 miles from Barstow is a wonderful community with lots to do! It has 27 miles of Lake Front, boat rentals, and a quaint shopping area. A trip to Big Bear is a great day trip or a weekend getaway. If you are coming from or have been stationed in Germany, the atmosphere in Big Bear is quite similar to that of Garmisch.

San Bernardino National Forest:

<http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/sanbernardino/>.

A great place for Picnics, camping, fishing, hiking & off roading!

Motocross

Ft Irwin Motocross Club -

<http://autos.dir.groups.yahoo.com/dir/1600126265?st=40>

Stoddard Valley Off highway Vehicle Area – 7 miles south of Barstow off of I-15, it's a great place to go 4-wheeling! Get more information on access and camping at:

<http://www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/fo/barstow/stoddard.2.html>

Winery Tours:

Falkner Winery – 40620 Calle Contento Temecula, CA 92591

The winery is open daily from 10 – 5. Public tours are conducted at 10 & 2 & cost \$3 per person. Private group tours are also available. Call 951-676-8231 for more information. www.falknerwinery.com

Galleano Winery - 4231 Wineville Rd Mira Loma, CA Phone: 951-685-

5376 Wine Tasting is available during Business hours. Tours are held on

the weekends between 2-4. Groups of 10 or more require an appointment. www.galleanowinery.com

October – March Monday – Saturday 9-5 & Sunday 1030- 5

April – September: Monday – Saturday 9 – 6 & Sunday 1030 -5

Joseph Filippi Winery – 12467 Base Line Rd, Rancho Cucamonga, CA

Phone: 909-899-5755

Wine tasting Monday – Saturday 10-6 & Sundays 11 – 5; Tours are Wed – Sun at noon and special Tours can be arranged by appointment

www.josephfilippiwinery.com

Calico Ghost Town - <http://www.calicotown.com/> Open every day except Christmas from 0800 – Dusk

Calico Ghost Town is an authentic mining town, with 1/3 of the buildings being original. Admission is \$6 for adults & \$3 for children. The Ghost Town is 30 min. from Ft Irwin in Yermo.

Sky Line Drive In – A real drive in movie with 2 screens!!! 31175 Old Hwy 58. Admission is \$6 for adults and \$2 for children under 12, and you get two new movies for one ticket. Call 760-256-3333 for show times.

Western American Railroad Museum – Historical Harvey House, 1st Ave Barstow, CA Admission is FREE! Real Life Thomas the Train! Open Friday – Sunday from 11 – 4, or take a virtual tour at:

<http://www.barstowrailmuseum.org/>

Coronado Island – located right off of San Diego, Coronado is a high end tourist spot. Military members can make reservations 60 days out at the Navy lodge & stay for only \$73.00 per night! Early in the mornings you might get a glimpse of the Navy SEALs training on the beach. Downtown Coronado has great shopping & restaurants.

Death Valley <http://www.nps.gov/deva/>

A great place for photos, Death Valley is 4 hours from Ft Irwin. Go to the website for information on things to do such as camping, backpacking, & biking. Several Guided Tours are offered. You can rent a camper from Outdoor Recreation & reserve a camp site for your stay in Death Valley.

Disneyland: ***You can get discounted tickets at the Tickets and Tours on post.*** 1600 S. Disneyland Drive, Anaheim CA

Hollywood – go see the sign & see the Stars!

Go to <http://www.hollywoodsign.org/see.html> to find safe parking places so that you can get your picture with the HOLLYWOOD sign.

Also, when you are planning your trip go to www.seeing-stars.com for a list of upcoming movie premieres and star ceremonies (laying a star on the walk of fame). This is also the tourism website for the city of Hollywood so you can plan your trip around the things that you want to see or do.

Catch a NASCAR race. There are two racetracks close by, The California Speedway, in Fontana, and the Las Vegas Motor Speedway, in Las Vegas. Check out www.californiaspeedway.com, www.lvms.com, and www.nascar.com for race dates.

Dave & Buster's in Ontario – at the Ontario Mills Mall, Dave & Buster's is the Chuck E Cheese for grown-ups! It's the only place with a restaurant serving everything from wings to New York Strips, a bar with the best happy hour and a Million Dollar Midway filled with the latest interactive and video games.

Las Vegas – The city that never sleeps – there is SOOOO much to do in Vegas. & with so much to do – you are probably better served, by

checking out the city's tourism web site at www.visitlasvegas.com If you are going to gamble – remember to sign up for free Player's Cards at the information / customer service of each casino. When you play you earn points, which can be redeemed for free hotel rooms, food, shows, & so much more! Vegas is a fun place with so many restaurants and great shows!

Useful phone numbers

S-1: 760-380-4313

CHAPLAIN: 760-382-3309

1SG: 760-380-6351

XO: 845-283-7033

CDR: 760-499-4226

We hope that this guide will help you get acquainted with your new home. Please know that if there is anything that you need or if you just want to call – we are here.

